

AMENDMENTS

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the previously amended paragraphs beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following amended paragraphs:

This application is a continuation of: international application PCT/US02/03169 filed January 30, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,692 filed January 31, 2001; international application PCT/US02/03168 filed January 31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,693 filed January 31, 2001; international application PCT/US02/02892 filed January 31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,695 filed January 31, 2001; and international application PCT/US02/030967 filed January 30, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,694 filed January 31, 2001. This application also claims the benefit of concurrently filed U.S. Application No. [[_____]]10/632,539, entitled "COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NUCLEIC ACIDS USING POPULATION TAGGING" by Matthew M. Winkler and David Brown, which claims the benefit of the instant application and which is a continuation of: international application PCT/US02/03097 filed January 30, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,694 filed January 31, 2001; international application PCT/US02/03168 filed January 31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,693 filed January 31, 2001; international application PCT/US02/02892 filed January 31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,695 filed January 31, 2001; and international application PCT/US02/03169 filed January 30, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,692 filed January 31, 2001.

Applicants specifically incorporate herein by reference the entire disclosures of each of the following applications and publications: PCT/US02/03097, PCT Publication WO 02/061143, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,694; PCT/US02/03168, PCT Publication WO 02/064835, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,693; PCT/US02/02892, PCT Publication WO 02/061140, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,695; and PCT/US02/03169, PCT Publication WO 02/061145, and U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,692. Applicants further specifically incorporate herein by reference the entire disclosure of concurrently filed U.S. Application No. [[____]]10/632,539, entitled "COMPETITIVE AMPLIFICATION OF FRACTIONATED TARGETS FROM MULTIPLE NUCLEIC ACID SAMPLES" by Matthew M. Winkler and David Brown.

Please replace the previously amended paragraph beginning on page 36, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

In addition to the techniques described herein, other methods of nucleic acid manipulation and/or additional compositions may be applied to nucleic acid targets, populations and/or samples. Such additional methods and compositions are described in detail in: concurrently filed U.S. Application No. [[____]]10/632,539, entitled "COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NUCLEIC ACIDS USING POPULATION TAGGING" by Matthew M. Winkler and David Brown, which is a continuation of co-pending international application PCT/US02/03097 filed January 30, 2002 and claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,694 filed January 31, 2001; co-pending PCT/US02/02892 filed January 31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,695 filed January 31, 2001, entitled "COMPETITIVE POPULATION NORMALIZATION FOR COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NUCLEIC ACID SAMPLES," filed on January 31, 2001; and PCT/US02/03168 filed January

31, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/265,693 filed January 31, 2001, entitled "METHODS FOR NUCLEIC ACID FINGERPRINT ANALYSIS," each of whose disclosure is specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety without disclaimer.